

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
ORIGINAL DATE: OCTOBER 1993
TAG REVIEW DATE: 21 MAY 1998**

1. SITE NAME: Plano Trabuco Target Area
(Temecula Bombing Range)

SITE NUMBER: J09CA020900

LOCATION:

City: Rancho Santa Margarita
County: Orange
State: California

PROJECT NUMBER: J09CA020901

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 2

ASR RAC: 2

TAG RAC: 2

2. POC's:

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3. SITE DESCRIPTION:

a. Plano Trabuco Target Area consisted of approximately 1800 acres of land just east of Mission Viejo, California, in Orange County. This FUDS covered portions of Sections 10, 11, 14, 15, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 32 and 33, Township 6 South, Range 7 West and

portions of Sections 4 and 5, Township 7 South, Range 7 West of the San Bernardino Base and Meridian.

b. The entire 1800 acres lies within a 5000 acre area that is currently owned by the O'Neil family, with its operational entity under the Santa Margarita Company. Portions of this FUDS has become homes, small businesses and a golf course.

4. SITE HISTORY:

a. The Plano Trabuco Target Area was used by the Department of the Navy (USMC) during WW II as a practice bombing range in conjunction with the Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, CA. The target was established in 1944 and used through 1956 at which time it was released to the estate of Jerome O'Neil.

b. During the years following DOD use, hundreds of practice bombs and target markers were found and stockpiled by individuals that farmed the land. When plans for the development of the area were begun in 1984 by the Santa Margarita Company, a joint clearance operation was conducted by the Orange County Hazardous Device Squad and the El Toro MCAS Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit. Fourteen dump trucks of surface and stockpiled certified inert OE were removed from the area and four hundred forty eight suspect items were destroyed.

c. In 1984, actual development of the planned community began, encompassing the original 1800 acres of the former Plano Trabuco Target Area. Today this area exists as a moderately populated community, with a continually increasing number of businesses, residents and public facilities.

d. In August 1988, EOD support was discontinued and Rancho Santa Margarita Company hired a private firm to remove the OE. This lead to the accumulation of two stockpiles of OE. One quantity was buried twenty to thirty feet below the surface of the 8th hole of the Tijeras Creek Golf Course. The second quantity (61 tons) was transported by truck to a remote location in Chiquita Canyon. This stockpile was ultimately removed by IT Corporation in 1991 under contract with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Division.

e. In addition to the numerous clearances of ordnance that have taken place, information was obtained indicating the procedures followed by the contractors during the development of this community. In an effort to remove any OE in what was the southern portion/golf course area the following procedures were followed:

(1) The soil was turned over and materials 2'- 3' deep was run through a vibrating screen with all OE being removed.

(2) The area was walked using metal detectors capable of detecting to a depth of 2'

(3) Notices were/are given out to the developer and residents (old and new) stating the history of the area, procedures followed during development of the area and information on the types of ordnance that had been recovered. The notice also contains the emergency phone number to call should anyone encounter any suspect ordnance.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Entire Site:	Size, Acres:	Approximately 1800
	Former Use:	Bomb Target
	Present Use:	Residential
	Future Use:	Same as above
	Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed
	Type:	3 lb., 4 lb., 25 lb. Practice Bombs and Practice Rockets

6. CURRENT STATUS:

The Archives Search report (ASR) for Plano Trabuco Target Area was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, in October 1993.

7. STRATEGY: Entire Site: ESI

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

a. The Huntsville Center Technical Advisory Group reviewed this ASR on 21 May 1998 and determined that an ESI will be performed on this site as, according to the ASR, various locations within this FUDS were inspected and no observations of OE were made. No hazards exist that would warrant need for any immediate removal actions. Since original site inspection date, much more of the FUDS has been developed and additional discoveries of OE may have occurred. Recommend that new residents continue to receive informational packets relating to the potential for OE in the area.

b. The adobe hut, which is located in the target area, is considered a "historical marker."

c. There are known Federally-and State-listed species occurring in the site area. An on-site inspection by appropriate

State and federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities.

d. While the 1800 acre site investigated is clearly eligible under the DERP FUDS program, a question exists as to the actual name of the site. Records located during the archives search and interviews with local residents indicate that this site is not Temecula Bombing Range, but rather, Plano Trabuco Target Area.

8. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: ESI/CR

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only